among sizeable section of Muslim community;

(b) if so, what are the details of the organisation and functioning of this centre specially for cultural and educational advancement of Muslims of India; and

(c) by when this project is likely to begin its work?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) to (c) Aligarh Muslim University (AMU) had mooted a proposal to set up a Centre for Cultural and Educational Advancement of Muslims of India to take up activities relating to education of women, vacational training programme, entrepreneurship training etc., for the advancement of Muslims in India. The proposal was considered by an Expert Committee, constituted by the Government and it was decided that the Centre be renamed as the Centre of Coordination for Cultural and Educational Advancement of Muslims of India. The Report of the Committee was approved by the Government except for the recommendations in respect of the following two Schemes :—

(i) Creation of Information Data Base; and

(ii) Documentation of Culture.

AMU was requested to approach the U. G. C. for financial sanctions.

The University submitted a proposal to the U. G. C. which involved an outlay of Rs. 75.00 lakhs spread over a period of four years. This was considered by the Commission in its meeting held on 26-3-1993 and it was resolved that seed money may be provided to the University for preparing a feasibility report in the first instance.

U. G. C. has informed that this decision has been conveyed to the AMU which is expected to send the requirements of seed money to the Commission for consideration for release of grants. According to AMU, the work of the project will be taken up after the grants are received.

Indian Students in Uzbekistan and Kazakistan

1630. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian students studying in Uzbekistan and Kazakistan are facing a lot of hardships and problem after breakup of U. S. S. R.;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Indian Students have given some memorandum to the Prime Minister during his recent visit to these countries;

(d) if so, the details of such memorandum; and

(e) what steps Government propose to take in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) and (b) Following the dissolution of the former Soviet Union, Indian students admitted in educational institutions under different non-Governmental schemes have been facing difficulties in some of the independent Republics including Uzbekistan. The problem mainly relates to an increase in fees and payment of fees etc. in hard currency.

(c) and (d) Indian Scholars Association in Tashkent gave a memorandum to the Prime Minister, during his visit to that country in May, 1993, suggesting certain measures. The thrust of the memorandum was to urge the Uzbekistan Government to honour the commitment under which the students got admissions in educational institutions there. There is no such representation from Kazakistan.

(e) At the intervention of Government of India, the Govt. of Uzbekistan have substantially reduced the annual tuition fees, and Reserve Bank of India has also extended facilities for Indian students in Uzbekistan to avail of bank loans for payment of their fees.

Translation Work in Sahitya Academy

1631. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the pace of translation work in the Sahitya Academy is at low level;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken to boost it?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Cut in grants to Regional Engineering Colleges in Uttar Predesh

1632. DR. NAUNIHAL SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have imposed a 10 percent cut in all grants and loans to autonomous bodies, research organisations and regional engineering colleges in Uttar Predesh, if so, the detailed reasons therefor;

(b) whether Government are aware that it would adversely affect technical education in the regional engineering colleges where the student teacher ratio is much higher than the recommended norms, if so, the detailed reasons for such move?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) and (b) To effect economy in administrative expenditure of the Government, a 10% cut in sanctioned posts/salary provision under Non-Plan has been imposed in the autonomous organisations including Motilal Nehru Regional Engineering College, Allahabad in Uttar Predesh. However, this cut excludes teaching and research posts of educational Institutions so that it does not adversely affect their : academic activities.

Introduction of Computer Courses in Kendriya Vidyalaya from Government side

1633. SHRI SYED SIBTEY RAZI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some Kendriya Vidyalayas in Shalimar Bagh, I. N. A. and R. K. Puram have been selected for introduction of computer course from Government side;

(b) whether any progress to introduce this course in selected Vidyalayas during 1993-94 has since been made:

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether Government propose to take some action for early introduction of said course in the above said Vidyalayas; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) to (e) No, Sir. Excepting the CLASS (Computer Literacy Awareness Scheme for Schools) there are no other Computer Courses in the Kendriya Vidyalayas. However, some computer firms have offered a scheme of Computer Literacy to Kendriya Vidyalaya students on a voluntary basis. Under the scheme in the premises of Kendriya *Vidyalayas after class hours, computer literacy* can be taught by the firm to those students who volunteer to pay some fee to the firm. This scheme, on an experimental basis, is being considered for some selected Kendriya Vidyalayas in Delhi for which some firms have made offers.

Pension scheme for the employees of Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti

1634. SHRI J. P. JAVALI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any pension scheme for the retired employees of Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti;

(b) if so, since when it was implemented;

(c) what are the reasons for not taking the cases of some employees who had retired between the period of 1986 and the year of its implementation into consideration;

(d) whether such other cases are still pending with Government since long;

(e) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(f) by when Government propose to give its approval to the same and what would be its financial implications?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Since 1-4-1990.

(c) to (f) The cases of the employees retiring before 1-4-1990 were settled in accordance with